



BOROUGH OF ARUNDEL

Sanctus

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer

of Health

1957

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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1957

CONTENTS

Page.

Section I	Statistics and Social Conditions ..	4
Section II	General Provision of Health Services	8
Section III	Sanitary Circumstances of the Area	10
Section IV	.. Housing ..	20
Section V	Inspection and Supervision of Food	26
Section VI	Prevalence and Control of Diseases	32

THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman

Councillor H.M. Jacob.

Vice-Chairman

Councillor Miss M.E.Langford.

The Mayor

Alderman G.H. Stevens, J.P.

Councillor R.J. Gibbons.

Councillor L.B. Glossop.

Councillor C.W. Sewell.

Alderman A.G. Whittaker, J.P.

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

V.P. Geoghegan, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector, Surveyor and Engineer.

H.W.Simmonds, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., C.S.I.B.

Clerical Staff

R.A. Pryke.

Mrs. B. Bernard-Smith.

Health Department,
Council Offices,
ARUNDEL.

June, 1958.

TO: His Worship The Mayor, Aldermen
and Councillors of the BOROUGH OF ARUNDEL.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Tenth Annual Report on the health of the Borough and the work of the Public Health Department during 1957.

The principal vital statistics for the year, together with comparative figures for 1956, are :-

	<u>Arundel Borough</u>		<u>England and Wales</u>	
	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>
Estimated Home Population ..	2,610	2,640	44,907,000	44,667,000
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population	12.26	15.15	16.1	15.7
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	12.64	14.77	11.5	11.7

In a small population fluctuations in annual birth and death rates are of no significance.

The continuing importance of Diphtheria Immunisation and the opportunity now offered for Poliomyelitis Vaccination are stressed in Section VI of the report.

I wish to express my thanks to Members of the Council for their help, and to Mr. H.W. Simmonds, your Surveyor and Public Health Inspector, who has supplied most of the material for the report.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

B.P. Geoghegan.
Medical Officer of Health

Section I.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

This small country town lying on the banks of the River Arun is a shopping centre for the surrounding villages.

The population finds employment in agriculture and its ancillary industries, on the Norfolk Estate and in the retail and catering trades encouraged by the increasing number of summer visitors.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres	2,054
Registrar-General's Estimate of Home Population (1956 mid-year) ..	2,640
Registrar-General's Estimate of Home Population (1957 mid-year) ..	2,610
Number of inhabited dwellings	992
Rateable Value (31st December 1957) .. .	£42,790
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate .. .	£ 166

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

ARUNDEL BOROUGH						BIRTH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION				
Total Number (After adjustment for transfers)						Birth Rate per 1,000 Population		West Sussex		
								Rural	Urban	England and Wales
Year	Total	Sex		Illegitimate		Crude		(Uncorrected)		
		M	F	No.	%		Corr.			
1956	40	18	22	Nil	-	15.15	18.48	14.92	13.34	15.7
1957	32	15	17	Nil	-	12.26	14.83	13.19	15.02	16.1

Stillbirths

Total Number (after adjustment for transfers)				Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	Rate per 1,000 population
Year	Total	Sex			
		M	F		
1956	1	-	1	24.39	0.37
1957	-	-	-	-	-

Deaths

ARUNDEL BOROUGH						WEST SUSSEX		ENGLAND AND WALES
Total Deaths (after adjustment for transfers)				Death Rates per 1,000 Population		Death Rates per 1,000 population (Uncorrected)		Death Rate per 1,000 population
Year	Total	Sex		Crude	Corr.	Rural Districts	Urban Districts	
		M	F					
1956	39	17	22	14.77	11.07	13.78	14.71	11.7
1957	33	10	23	12.64	9.48	12.08	13.37	11.5

The chief causes of death were:-

	1957	1956
(i) Diseases of heart and circulatory system	13	(14)
(ii) Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	10	(1)
(iii) Cancer	6	(7)

The above three causes accounted for 29 or 88% of the total deaths recorded during the year.

Of the total deaths, 26 or 79% occurred in persons aged 65 years or over, and 21 or 63% in persons aged 75 years or over.

A table showing the causes of death, ages and sex distribution, is set out on page 6.

No deaths occurred from the following causes:-

<u>R.G.List</u>	<u>Cause</u>	<u>R.G.List</u>	<u>Cause</u>
<u>No.</u>		<u>No.</u>	
1	Tuberculosis, Respiratory.	26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.
2	Tuberculosis, other.		
3	Syphilitic disease.	27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.
4	Diphtheria.		
5	Whooping Cough.	28	Nephritis and Nephrosis.
6	Meningococcal Infections.	29	Hyperplasia of prostate.
7	Acute Poliomyelitis.	30	Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion.
8	Measles.		
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases.	31	Congenital malformations.
		32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases.
11	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus.		
12	" " , Breast	33	Motor vehicle accidents.
13	" " , Uterus	34	All other accidents.
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	35	Suicide.
22	Influenza	36	Homicide and operations of war.
23	Pneumonia		

Table of Causes of Death at Different Periods of Life
during the Year 1957.

R.G. List No.	CAUSES OF DEATH	Sex	All Ages	Y e a r s						
				25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	85-
	All Causes	M	10	-	1	-	1	2	3	3
		F	23	-	-	1	4	3	12	3
10	Malignant Neoplasms, stomach	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		F	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
14	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		F	5	-	-	-	2	1	2	-
16	Diabetes	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		F	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
17	Vascular Lesions of nervous system	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
		F	8	-	-	1	1	1	4	1
18	Coronary disease, angina	M	3	-	-	-	1	2	-	-
		F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
19	Hypertension with heart disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		F	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
20	Other heart diseases	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
		F	4	-	-	-	-	1	2	1
21	Other Circulatory disease	M	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24	Bronchitis	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
		F	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
25	Other diseases of Respiratory system	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		F	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-

Maternal Mortality.

No deaths were registered as directly due to pregnancy or childbearing.

Infant Mortality.

Infant Deaths under 1 Year					Rates per 1,000 live births			
ARUNDEL BOROUGH					ARUNDEL BOROUGH	WEST SUSSEX		ENGLAND AND WALES
Year	Total	Sex		Illegit- imate		R.D's	U.D's	
		M	F					
1956	Nil	-	-	-	-	19.	28.	23.8
1957	Nil	-	-	-	-	18.	20.	23.0

Various Death Rates for England and Wales, and the Urban and Rural Districts of West Sussex, are shown in the following table of comparative statistics :-

	<u>England & Wales</u>	<u>West Sussex</u>		<u>Arundel Borough</u>	
		<u>Urban</u>	<u>Rural</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>
Maternal Mortality					
Rate per 1,000 births	0.47	0.29	-	Nil	Nil
Pulmonary Tuberculosis					
Death Rate per 1,000 population	0.09	0.06	0.10	Nil	0.37
Cancer Death Rate per 1,000 population ..	2.09	2.53	2.14	2.29	2.65

Section II

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Hospitals.

The hospitals providing accommodation and treatment for residents of the Borough are administered by the South-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board, and are as follows:-

St. Richard's Hospital, Chichester.
Royal West Sussex Hospital, Chichester.
Southlands Hospital, Shoreham-by-Sea.
Sussex Maternity and Women's Hospital, Brighton.
Zachary Merton Maternity Home, Rustington.
Aldingbourne House Sanatorium.
Bognor Annex to Aldingbourne House.
Swandean Isolation Hospital, Worthing.
Arundel and District Hospital.
Worthing Hospital.

Laboratory Service.

Examinations carried out for this Authority by the Public Health Laboratory at Portsmouth during 1957 were as follows :-

<u>Nature of Specimen.</u>	<u>Number Examined.</u>
Water	39
Milk	39

Ambulances.

The Local Health Authority (the West Sussex County Council) provides an ambulance service with ambulances operating from Littlehampton.

Ambulances for the removal of infectious cases are stationed at Chichester, Worthing and Horsham.

Home Nursing and Midwifery.

The West Sussex County Council provides nursing services.

One District Nurse in Arundel is responsible for Home Nursing, Midwifery, School and Health Visiting duties.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

Held at:

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres	-)	Arundel,
Ante-Natal Clinics	-)	Chichester, and
School Clinics (Minor Ailments)	-)	Littlehampton
Eye Clinics	-)	
Orthopaedic Clinic	-	Littlehampton
Speech Therapy Clinic	-	Littlehampton
Aural Clinic	-	Chichester
Chest Clinic	-	Aldingbourne Sanatorium
Venereal Diseases Clinics	-	Worthing Hospital and St. Richard's Hospital, Chichester.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

Section 47 and 50.

No action was necessary.

Section III

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply

The water supply of the Borough is provided by the Duke of Norfolk's Estate, from a borehole and well situated in Mill Road near Swanbourne Lake, and pumped unfiltered to reservoirs in Arundel Park and Herons Wood.

Water consumed in the Borough is purchased in bulk at 10d. per thousand gallons.

All water pumped is chlorinated at the Waterworks before distribution, and a constant supply is maintained to almost every house in the Borough. Only two isolated cottages depend on underground rainwater storage tanks for a water supply. The quantity of water available is estimated to be sufficient for the steady development of the district for many years to come.

The Chlorination plant which is maintained by the Corporation consists of an Ammoniator, a Chlorinator and a Reagent Feeder using Sodium Hypochlorite. Constant supervision of this plant by the resident engineer is maintained. The plant is regularly serviced by Messrs. Wallace & Tiernan Ltd. under contract with the Corporation.

Four new 4" mains with a total length of 261 yards were laid by direct labour during the year with eight new sluice valves.

Two new fire hydrants were installed.

Specimens of raw water from both the borehole and the well and of chlorinated water from consumers' taps were submitted for bacteriological examination at regular intervals. A total of 39 samples were submitted and the following table gives details of the reports received:-

No. of Samples Submitted	Source	PATHOLOGIST'S REPORT			
		R a w W a t e r			Chlorinated Supply
		Satisfactory	Contamination		
		factory	Moderate	Marked	Satisfactory
13	Borehole	-	2	11	-
13	Well	1	-	12	-
13	Distribution mains.	-	-	-	13
39	TOTALS	1	2	23	13

Water Supply (Contd.)

No samples were submitted for Chemical analysis.

The 13 samples of chlorinated water taken from consumers' taps were found to be of satisfactory purity. The bacterial quality of the water is therefore at most times dependent upon efficient chlorination. Interruption of chlorination is avoided as far as possible by careful supervision of the plant and its operation.

Water Statistics for the year ending 31st March 1957.

Water Consumption in the Borough.

	Gallons	
	Total	Per Day
(1) Domestic and unmetered supplies	32,612,820	89,426
(2) Industrial and trade supplies by meter	2,227,620	6,103
Total for area of supply	<u>34,840,440</u>	<u>95,529</u>

Supplies through Corporation mains for the Duke of Norfolk's Estate, under Water Agreement.

	Gallons	
	Total	Per Day
(a) Tortington	204,660	561
(b) Lyminster	22,631,900	62,005
Totals	<u>22,836,560</u>	<u>62,566</u>

	Gallons	
	Total	Per Day
Increased consumption of water supplied through Borough mains over 1956 to outlying areas.. .. .	27,570	76
Decreased consumption of water supplied by Corporation over the year 1956..	1,913,570	5,215
Maximum weekly consumption	724,930 gallons.	
Minimum weekly consumption	600,160 gallons.	
Gallons per head per day (exclusive of metered supplies)	31.5 gallons.	
Gallons per head per day (inclusive of metered supplies)	33.6 gallons.	
Number of metered supplies	38	
Length of mains owned by the Corporation	6.46 miles	
Estimated population supplied.. ..	3049	
Number of consumers	1124	

Water Supply (Contd.)

During the year detection of misuse and waste of water continued. A number of defective appliances were found and rectified, and leaks remedied. There was only one major water mains burst during 1957. Sundry maintenance works to valves, renewals of meters etc. were also carried out.

New Byelaws for the prevention of waste, misuse of water etc., were confirmed by the Minister and came into operation on the 19th April 1956.

Further amendments to these Byelaws were made by the Corporation and received the Minister's approval early in the year.

The new electrically driven pump has now been in operation for about a year and is giving good service.

By agreement, the Corporation provide water to their Stewards Copse Housing Estate situated within the statutory supply area of the Bognor Regis Urban District Council.

For some time water pressure on the high land to the west of the Borough has been inadequate when the Castle Park Reservoir (O.D.142) was low. This is due to the close relationship of the levels in these two areas.

The installation of the new pump at the Waterworks has, however, enabled more use to be made of the Herons Wood Reservoir (O.D.200) which is on much higher ground.

The linking of the West Arundel area with the Herons Wood Reservoir was carried out in May and has resulted in far greater pressure in this area particularly on the higher ground.

The area served takes approximately a third of the total consumption of the Borough.

The scheme which is a link up of the mains from the two reservoirs is controlled by a series of valves and consumption is metered from both reservoirs. In the event of an emergency the supply can be diverted through either reservoir independently.

Water Supply (Contd.)

This scheme obviates the necessity for the booster station which has been under consideration for several years for the West Arundel area.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The Council have two sewage disposal works - a small works in Fitzalan Road on the south-east side of the river, and the main works in Ford Road on the north-west side.

During the year a further small works was put down by an estate developer which will ultimately take the drainage from about 12 houses.

The sewers in the Borough are partially separated. Some rain water is received into the sewage works, the remainder runs to separate sewers which discharge into the River Arun.

As in past years complaints of bad smells were received from residents in the neighbourhood of the Ford Road works. Treatment of the sewage in the summer months with Sodium Hypochlorite is carried out at the detritus tank. This has proved partially satisfactory and has reduced the complaints except in very humid weather.

The works are, however, very antiquated, being designed for chemical precipitation and sludge pressing - a method long since abandoned by local authorities. The sludge pressing machinery has not been used since about 1914. The volume of sewage increases each year with new houses being erected, together with improved sanitary appliances in the older houses. In addition, with the growth of the Torton Hill Estate, the works are rapidly becoming surrounded and are no longer isolated as they were when established some 50 years ago.

A report has been submitted to the Public Health Committee of the Council on the sewerage of the town generally and will have been considered before this report is published.

No works of alteration were carried out to either of the sewage works during the year.

Drainage and Sewerage (Contd.)

There has been considerable activity during the year in the laying of new foul and storm water sewers, principally in connection with proposed Private Estate development and small additions to the Corporation Housing Estate.

Lengths of foul sewers laid within the Borough during the year were as follows - 183 yds. of 6" and 34 yds. of 4" mains.

In addition foul sewers totalling approximately 175 yds. of 6" main were laid outside the Borough in connection with private and Corporation development. The former are connected to the Corporation's sewers by agreement.

Storm water sewers laid in the Borough amounted to 155 yds. of 4" main. Storm water sewers were also laid outside the Borough as in the case of the foul sewers mentioned above and again connected to the Corporation mains. These included 183 yds. of 12", 142 yds. of 6" and 13 yds. of 4" mains.

A total of approximately 885 yds. run.

Repeated blockages of the foul sewer in Station Road necessitated opening up before the obstruction could be located and removed.

There are 8 premises still using bucket closets with soakaway drainage for sullage water, whilst 31 other premises have water carriage sanitation and either run to cesspools or soakaways. All these premises are situated in positions which make it impossible to connect to a sewer or where main drainage is not available.

Public Conveniences.

The Corporation owns two public conveniences - one on the Town Quay and the other in Mill Road.

Rivers and Streams.

No action was necessary to check pollution of rivers and streams in the area.

A varying number of vessels are moored to wharves of the River Arun. Two such vessels are used permanently for habitation.

Public Cleansing.

The collection of household refuse throughout the Borough is carried out weekly by the Corporation. Trade refuse is also removed by agreement.

The Council continued the salvaging of waste paper, textiles, etc. until July when collection ceased owing to lack of market for the same. The following materials were sold during 1957:-

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Revenue		
				£.	s.	d.
Baled Waste Paper	18.	12.	-.	111	2.	-.
Non-ferrous metals		3.	1.	13.	7.	5.
Ferrous metals	2.	13.	1.	13.	4.	3.
Textiles		1.	2.	2.	2.	10.
	21.	10.	-.	140.	6.	6.

The revenue from salvaged materials shows a decrease of £57. compared with the figure for the previous year.

Refuse tipping has been carried out during the year on the Spring Ditch site. Every effort has been made to carry out "controlled tipping" and one employee is engaged full time on the tip for this purpose.

The tip at Scotland Barn is still retained for the occasional disposal of goods not wanted on the Spring Ditch site i.e. sawdust etc.

Tipping of earth is still permitted on the old tip in Canada Road, and is indeed welcomed, to help in levelling the surface. This tip is now nearly ready for proper levelling and grassing to convert it into the Playing Field.

Three full days per week are devoted to refuse collection and disposal, and with the erection since the war of 283 new houses, it will be appreciated that this essential service is gradually becoming a full time job for which men will have to be solely employed. At the end of the year a new refuse freighter was on order to replace the Dennis which has given 11 years service.

Every effort is made to keep under control the potential menace of flies and rats on the tips. They are sprayed with "Gammexane" for flies and regularly treated for rats.

The Council continued to give assistance to the West Sussex County Council in the clearance of snow and dealing with icy conditions on all roads in the Borough.

The Corporation has continued the scavenging of both County and District Roads as well as the routine emptying of street gullies in the District Roads.

Shops Act 1950

Seventeen visits were made to shops under the above Act. As a result of these inspections eight warnings were given regarding offences. Seven in respect of early Closing Day and one regarding Sunday Trading.

The Council have by order waived the half day closing for a period of four months during the summer months.

Smoke Abatement

No action has been necessary in this direction.

Eradication of Bed Bugs and Fleas.

No complaints of vermin infestation were received during the year and no evidence of the existence of such vermin was discovered during routine visits for other purposes.

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

One site in the Borough is licenced for camping purposes under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. It comprises .715 of an acre, is licenced for three movable dwellings, and has a main water supply and dry conservancy sanitary facilities.

No formal action was necessary during the year.

The Corporation have not adopted Byelaws to control Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Swimming Baths.

There are no public swimming baths in use in the Borough.

Thanks to the enthusiasm and hard work of the Headmaster, Staff and scholars of the Roman Catholic School a miniature swimming pool was constructed in the playground, its purpose being mainly to encourage and give instruction in swimming.

The bath is filled by water from the mains, is chemically treated and regularly tested by the Staff.

Rats and Mice Destruction.

The West Sussex No. 2 Workable Area Committee set up in 1944 has continued to meet quarterly in Littlehampton, the Public Health Inspector being the representative of the Borough on this Committee.

Complaints regarding rats are dealt with by the Council's part-time Rodent Operator. As a result of independent investigations and complaints received, only a few minor infestations were discovered and dealt with. No infestations were referred either to the Agricultural Executive Committee or to the West Sussex Rivers Board.

Council properties are regularly treated as a precautionary measure.

No test baiting of the sewers was carried out during 1957.

The part-time Rodent Operator attended a refresher training course arranged by the Ministry.

Schools.

No changes were made in the existing sanitary facilities at either of the two schools in the Borough during the year.

Factories Act, 1937.

There are forty-four factories and workplaces in the Borough of which twenty-eight are provided with mechanical power.

Factories Act 1937 (Contd.)

Visits to:

factories with mechanical power	...	...	53
factories without mechanical power	..	...	10
workplaces	...	...	5

Number of Defects:

Observed	...	...	...	...	...	9
Remedied	...	...	...	...	...	8

Section 34.

One certificate of "adequate means of escape in case of fire" was issued during the year.

Summary of Visits and Inspections under Public Health and Housing Acts

Infectious Disease	...	...	...	5
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	4
Butchers' Shops and Slaughterhouse	...	...	...	76
Dairies	...	...	...	4
Other Food Premises	...	...	...	46
Shops Act	...	...	...	17
Tents, Vans and Sheds..	...	...	...	11
Offices	...	...	...	7
Marine Stores	...	...	...	4
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	24
Water Supplies and Appliances...	...	...	...	170
Refuse Disposal Tips...	...	...	...	67
Sewage Works	...	...	...	20
Building Byelaws	...	...	...	637
Dangerous Structures...	...	...	...	9
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	158
Re-visits	...	...	...	266

Other Visits

Re Council House tenancies etc.	...	...	69
District Roads	...	...	197
Street Lighting	...	...	36
Petroleum Regulations..	...	...	13
Town Planning	...	...	20
Advertisements	...	...	14
Civil Defence	...	...	8

Works and Improvements

Rooms disinfected after infectious disease	...	2
Quantities of bedding destroyed	... ..	3
Dustbins provided	... ..	13
Drains tested	... ..	39
Drains re-laid	... ..	7
Drains cleared	... ..	16
New drains laid...	... ..	32
Earth Closets converted to Water Closets	...	-
Premises connected to main drainage	... ..	26
Premises connected to water main	... ..	26

Summary.

Total number of:

Inspections made for all purposes 2,189

Notices served:

(a) Informal 33

(b) Statutory 1

Complaints received 66

Nuisances found and abated 40

Interviews:

Re (a) Building Byelaws	... ..	55
(b) Town Planning	... ..	53
(c) Housing	... ..	65
(d) Water	... ..	15
(e) District Roads	... ..	14
(f) Miscellaneous	... ..	88
Total		<u>290</u>

Section IV

Housing

The year was one of steady progress.

Eleven families were rehoused by the Corporation during the year, 2 into new dwellings and 9 to fill casual vacancies in existing houses. The number rehoused was considerably less than the previous year owing to the drop off of casual vacancies.

At the close of the year the Council's application list for houses recorded 77 applicants, mostly from persons residing or working within the Borough.

The site for the 4 dwellings in the 1957 Scheme was levelled by Contractors early in the year.

Basic road works were executed in the extension of Jarvis Road to the South to open up the site being used for the 1957 Scheme, including the extension of the foul and rain water sewers and water main.

In addition the final surfacing of the roads, formation of grass verges and the provision of footpaths has been carried out in Jarvis Road on that section linking Canada Road with the Chichester Road, A.27.

A scheme for the provision of six garages on land off Pearson Road was approved by the Corporation and after twice being deferred by the Ministry was approved in November. At the end of the year the concrete oversites had been laid.

The Borough Surveyor was instructed to prepare a scheme utilising sites in Canada Road for 2 - 3 bedroomed houses and 4 Old Folks dwellings in 1958.

The Stewards Copse Estate of approximately 26 acres, which up to 6 years ago contained nearly 20 acres of woodland now houses some 158 dwellings, with 4 dwellings under construction and a further 6 proposed.

In addition land has been reserved for a future shopping site, a spur road off Jarvis Road, and for 3 Police Houses.

Housing (Contd.)

Works of repair and maintenance to the Council's properties are carried out by direct labour, 5 men being permanently employed for this purpose.

The Housing Committee gave further consideration to raising the standard of their pre-war houses, the basic standard aimed at being the facilities provided in the post-war houses.

The Borough Surveyor was instructed to proceed with these works as soon as practicable and at the end of 1957 six dwellings had been modernised.

Summary of Housing Accommodation administered by the Corporation.

Set out herewith are details of accommodation administered by the Corporation as at 31st December 1957:-

Council Houses:

Erected pre-war	...	...	...	81	
Erected post-war	...	...	...	<u>162</u>	243
Almshouses	...	...	...	6	
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	<u>2</u>	<u>8</u>
			Total	<u>251</u>	

Six chimney fires were reported by the Fire Brigade at Council Houses. Two claims were made on the Council's Insurance Company in respect of damage caused by the fires.

Private Housing.

A considerable number of works of alterations, repair and improvement of the older houses has again taken place.

Since the war the Corporation have acquired 20 sub-standard houses with the object of demolition. Of these no less than 18 have now been demolished, one let as a stores and the other remains occupied.

Private Housing (Contd.)

Rehousing of families from Sub-standard houses, where either Demolition or Closing Orders under the Housing Acts have been made, has resulted in 3 families comprising 11 persons being rehoused into new dwellings during the year.

The Corporation has endeavoured to continue an effective policy of demolition and closing of houses in such a condition as to be unfit for human habitation. During the past 9 years 36 such houses have been demolished in the Borough and a further 10 closed. In addition 5 Demolition Orders have been revoked by the execution of works to modernise and repair such dwellings.

A summary of the position re sub-standard houses at the end of 1957 was as follows:-

Demolition Orders:

Undertakings to recondition accepted	...	1
Undertakings to use only as stores accepted		2
Still occupied	... ..	6
Standing empty	... ..	5

Closing Orders:

Undertakings not to relet accepted	... ..	2
Still occupied	... ..	2
Standing empty	... ..	3

During the year 3 Demolition Orders were revoked after modernisation of the houses and an undertaking accepted in respect of another premises, works of which were in hand at the close of the year.

The Corporation informed the Minister of Housing and Local Government in August 1955 that they proposed dealing with 40 sub-standard houses in the following 5 years. So far 28 such dwellings have been dealt with in this manner, as follows:-

Closing Orders:

Orders made	... ..	8
Houses closed	... ..	6
Families rehoused	... ..	4
Still occupied	... ..	2

Private Housing (Contd.)

Demolition Orders:

Orders made	...	...	...	...	...	20
Houses demolished	...	...	...	...	...	4
Houses closed	...	...	...	...	...	7
Families rehoused	...	...	...	...	...	7
Still occupied	...	...	...	...	...	6
Orders revoked after reconditioning	...	...	...	...	...	5
Undertakings to recondition accepted	...	...	...	...	...	1

Improvement Grants.

Little interest has been apparent in the Government's scheme of Improvement Grant under the Housing Act.

Apart from two or three casual enquiries regarding such grants the only application received during the year was in respect of the financial adjustment of a grant authorised the previous year.

New Houses

(a) Private.

Twenty-two houses were completed by private enterprise and a further 4 dwellings were under construction at the end of the year.

(b) Council Houses.

Two 3 bedroom houses were erected and 4 - 2 bedroom flats were under construction at the end of the year.

The Borough Surveyor was instructed to prepare a scheme for 2 - 3 bedroom houses and 4 Old Folks dwellings in the Council's 1958 programme.

Requisitioned Property.

All properties previously requisitioned by the Corporation were released by the end of 1950.

Housing Statistics

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (Under Public Health or Housing Acts)	71
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	201
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses included under sub-heading (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	27
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	104
(3)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	13
(4)		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading), found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	43

2. Remedying of defects during the year without service of formal notice.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority 42

3. Remedying of defects during the year with service of formal notice.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of formal action taken by the Local Authority 1

4. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9 - 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(i)	Demolition Orders made	7
(ii)	Houses demolished	4
(iii)	Closing Orders made	-
(iv)	Houses closed	4
(v)	Closing Orders revoked	-
(vi)	Section 5 Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954:	
	Undertakings accepted	1
	Demolition orders revoked	3
	Work in progress	1

Action under Statutory Powers during the Year (Contd.)

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(i)	Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	1
(ii)	Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice:	
(a)	By owners	1
(b)	By Local Authority in default of the owners	-

5. Housing Act 1936 - Overcrowding.

(a)	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	6
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein ...	7
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein ...	48
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported	1
(c)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	-
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	-
(d)		Number of cases in which dwelling houses again became overcrowded after Local Authority had taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ...	-

Civil Defence.

The Public Works Committee now deals with Civil Defence matters. The Borough Surveyor is Civil Defence Officer and Controller designate, the Headquarters Section is under the control of the Mayor, Alderman G.H. Stevens, J.P.

The position of Evacuation and Billeting Officer is still vacant.

The Head Warden for the Borough is Mr. F.E. Langston.

Training courses for Headquarters, Wardens, Welfare and Rescue were held during the year.

Section V.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

All farms in the Borough are supplied with mains water. The position at the end of the year was as follows:-

Number of farms in the Borough	...	...	...	6
Number actually producing milk	...	...	...	4
Number of Dairymen (Milk Sellers)...	...	...	...	3
Number of inspections made of Milk Shops	...	...	...	4
Number of contraventions found	...	...	...	Nil

Milk Sampling

Thirty-nine samples of Pasteurised and Tuberculin Tested milks were taken during the year. The results were as follows:-

Designation	Number of Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory (Methylene Blue Test)
Pasteurised	21	20	1
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	12	12	-
Tuberculin Tested	6	1	5
TOTALS	39	33	+ 6

* In each case the attention of the vendor was drawn to the failure of the sample.

Biological Samples

No samples were taken by the Corporation.

Five samples of milk were however taken from Cowkeepers in the Borough by a neighbouring authority and were reported as satisfactory.

Milk Supply (Cont.)

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1949 to 1954.

The following Supplementary Licences were granted during 1957:-

(a) Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	3
(b) Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk	...			1
(c) Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	6
(d) Sterilised Milk	...	...	...	2

The Borough was included in a "Specified Area" as from the 1st April 1954. The effect of the Order defining this Specified Area is to make illegal the sale in the Borough of any milk which is not designated i.e. Sterilised, Pasteurised or Tuberculin Tested. In fact, no undesignated milk has been sold in the town for some years.

Meat and Other Foods

One private slaughterhouse is licenced in the Borough.

The following table gives the number of animals killed and inspected at the slaughterhouse during the year, together with details of the number of carcasses affected with various diseases.

No killing has taken place in the Borough since mid-September.

	Cattle exclud. Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2	-	59	58
Number inspected	2	-	59	58
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	50.0	-	-	3.50
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-

Meat and Other Foods (Contd.)

No carcasses were affected with Cysticercosis.

Thirty-seven visits were made to the slaughterhouse for meat inspection purposes. The quality of the animals slaughtered has been very high as may be noted from the following items which were condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

1 Ox Liver	-	Distomatosis
1 Pigs Heart	-	Pericarditis
1 Pigs lungs		
and heart	-	Pneumonia

Total weight of meat condemned - 16 lbs.

Unsound food at the slaughterhouse is coloured and taken by a Portsmouth firm of fertiliser manufacturers.

Periodic inspections of butchers' shops and vehicles have been carried out during the year.

Details of inspections carried out during the year are as follows:-

(a) Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	36
(b) Vehicles	...	...	...	...	3

The service of one notice re dirty conditions was made and the defect quickly righted.

Slaughter of Animals Act 1933 to 1954

Seven renewal licences to slaughter animals were granted by the Corporation during 1957.

No new licences were issued.

Food Premises

Byelaws concerning the "Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air" have been made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. These were confirmed by the Ministry of Food on the 14th June 1950.

Food Premises (Contd.)

There are 67 Food premises in the Borough, details of which are as follows:-

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Butchers Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Catering Establishments	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Chemists	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Licenced premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Corn Stores	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Fifty-eight visits of inspection were made to food premises during the year in addition to the figures already recorded for the Slaughterhouse and Butcher's Shops. Generally, the cafes and food shops maintain a high standard of cleanliness.

Nine offences under the Food Hygiene Regulations were observed and remedied by informal action.

Food Condemned at Food Shops

The following items of food stuffs, weighing a total of 105 lbs. 12 ozs. were found to be unfit for human consumption and condemned:-

5 tins Corned Beef
6 tins Pigs Livers
2 stones Cod Fillets
1 stone Bream Fillets

Bakehouses

There are two bakehouses in the Borough.

Six visits were made to these premises and no defects were observed.

Ice Cream

Twenty-four premises in the Borough are registered under the Food and Drugs Act for the sale of ice cream. No ice cream is manufactured in the Borough.

All ice cream is sold wrapped as delivered to the retailers by the manufacturers.

The results of ice cream samples taken by the Food and Drugs authority for fat content are not available for inclusion in the report.

Fried Fish Shop

There is one Fish Frying Establishment in the Borough. No complaints have been received regarding the establishment.

Mortuary

The Corporation own and maintain a mortuary which is situated in Ford Road adjoining the Cemetery. The building is well equipped and kept in a satisfactory condition.

Petroleum and Carbide

Nine licences for the storage of petroleum spirit were issued during 1957, and thirteen visits of inspection were made for this purpose. The storage arrangements of the applicants were satisfactory.

No licences for the storage of carbide were issued.

Dangerous Structures - Public Health Act, 1936 - Sec. 58

Informal Notices regarding the repair or renewal of nine dangerous buildings or structures were served during the year and entailed 21 visits.

Street Lighting.

The Corporation is responsible for street lighting in the Borough and operates 147 street lamps illuminated by gas. During the year four lamps were added to the lighting system.

Street Lighting (Contd.)

Four lamps were damaged during the year by motor traffic.

Thirty-six visits of inspection in regard to street lighting were made during the year.

The Corporation has a seven year contract with the South Eastern Gas Board for street lighting which was renewed as from 1st April 1952.

Food Adulteration

The West Sussex County Council is the Authority responsible for the Food Adulteration Sections of the Food and Drugs Act 1955. Details of the samples taken in the Borough are not available for inclusion in the report.

Water Cress

Visits of inspection were made to the watercress beds in the Borough and no complaints were received during the year.

Section VI

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF DISEASES.

The outstanding event of this year was the beginning of Poliomyelitis Vaccination. The disease Poliomyelitis, almost unknown to the public in this country until 1947, has since then become perhaps the disease most feared by parents. Unfortunately cases and outbreaks of it receive, in the press, publicity out of all proportion to the importance and frequency of its incidence; consequently parents worry over the risk of their children contracting it more than they need.

Poliomyelitis is still a rare disease - between 1950 and 1955 the total annual notifications of it varied between 7,760 (1950) and 1,960 (1954) in England and Wales, deaths from it over the same period varied between 755 (1950) and 134 (1954).

Furthermore in 1955 more than 40% of the cases notified were non paralytic.

All children up to the age of 15 years are now eligible for vaccination against Poliomyelitis and although many parents have been confused by the availability of different vaccines, British and American, and the tests to which they have been submitted there is little doubt that experience in America shows the safety and efficiency of the vaccines now available in this country.

No case of Diphtheria has been notified in the Borough since 1945, but it is still necessary to remind parents to have their children protected by immunisation against this disease. The danger of any child catching diphtheria at the present time may be small, but this danger will progressively increase over the years if the level of protection continues to fall.

Cancer

Six deaths (females) were attributed to Cancer during the year (7 in 1956)

The Cancer Death Rate for 1957 is 2.29 per 1,000 of the estimated home population, compared with a rate of 2.65 for the previous year. Corresponding rates for the Administrative County and the Urban and Rural Districts of West Sussex are 2.37, 2.53 and 2.14 respectively.

Diphtheria.

(a) Notifications. No cases of Diphtheria were notified during 1957, nor were any deaths registered as due to this cause.

(b) Immunisation. Sixty-three children under five years of age and three children over five but under fifteen years, received a complete course of protective immunisation in 1957. In addition, twenty-five children received 'follow-up' injections.

Pneumonia

One case was notified.

Poliomyelitis

No cases were notified in the Borough. The attack against this disease in the community is now two fold. Firstly all parents should register children under 15 for vaccination against Poliomyelitis and secondly everyone should realise that the disease is largely spread from person to person by infected fingers. Everyone should always wash their hands after using the lavatory.

Tuberculosis

One primary notification of pulmonary Tuberculosis was received during 1957, but no deaths were recorded as due to this cause.

The following table gives details of the number of cases on the notification register at the end of the year:-

		Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total Cases		
		M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
1	Number on Register at 1.1.57	4	6	10	1	2	3	5	8	13
2	Primary Notifications-1957	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
3	Transfer Cases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	Restorations to Register	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS		4	7	11	1	2	3	5	9	14
5	Cases removed - 1957	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
6	Number on Register at 31.12.57	3	7	10	1	2	3	4	9	13

Other Diseases

No notifications were received during the year of the undermentioned diseases:-

Cholera	Malaria	Poliomyelitis
Diphtheria	Measles	Puerperal Pyrexia
Dysentery	Membranous Croup	Relapsing Fever
Encephalitis (Acute)	Meningococcal Infection	Scarlet Fever
Enteric Fever	Ophthalmia	Smallpox
Erysipelas	Neonatorum	Typhus Fever
Food Poisoning	Plague	Whooping Cough

Table showing Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified during
the Year 1957.

Disease	Cases Notified			Age Distribution										Total
	M	F	Total	Age Distribution										
				0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25-	35-	
Pneumonia	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Tuberculosis Respiratory	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
TOTALS	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2

Details of Notifications received of
Measles, Scarlet Fever and Whooping Cough since 1948.

Disease	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Measles	17	52	7	127	7	61	-	39	27	-
Scarlet Fever	2	6	14	-	8	2	7	4	-	-
Whooping Cough	30	-	1	44	-	5	39	4	1	-

